



The Old Ironsides Report

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MP's Issue Iraqi Police New Radios

**Story and photo by SPC Kristopher Joseph,
18th MP BDE**

BAGHDAD, Iraq – The 18th Military Police Brigade achieved another milestone in advancing the Iraqi Police Service by issuing state-of-the-art communication radios to the Al-Mamun Police Station July 26 in western Baghdad.

The brigade commander, Col. Teddy R. Spain, is currently in charge of seeing that 34 police stations in Baghdad are renovated and equipped to allow the Iraqi police to provide the best possible safety and security for its citizens.

High on Spain's priority list is making sure the Iraqi law enforcers have a reliable internal radio communication system.

The Iraqi police were issued Motorola XTS 5000 digital radios, making the Baghdad police the only law enforcement agency outside the United States and only the third in the world to use the system, said Dr. Simon St. Paul, Iraq project director for radio systems.

The radio is capable of using up to 512 channels and can be encrypted so virtually no outside radio can tap into its frequency and listen in. It also has over-the-air re-keying (OTAR), which allows a radio to be shut off by another XTS 5000 in the event a radio is lost or stolen.

The entire project, which might normally take six months to complete, was finished in four weeks, St. Paul said.

"Our team has set up similar radio systems all over the Middle East," he said. "We have never done it so quickly."

Capt. Lesley Kipling, the brigade's signal officer, said the police officers were excited to receive the radios.

Brigadier Jamal Ady, the West Baghdad police chief, said that the Coalition has helped them support their people by giving them another tool to complete their mission successfully.

Iraqi citizens also helped by erecting two 60-meter tall radio towers that will allow the radio signals to travel throughout Baghdad.

The new radio system is changing the way Baghdad police will operate.

"In a few months," Kipling said, "there will be a totally different police force in Baghdad."



Lt. Col. John Garrity, 709th Military Police Battalion commander, and Iraqi West Baghdad police chief, Brigadier Jamal Ady, test the new Motorola communication radios given to the Iraqi Police Service.

A Smart Tip from 1AD Safety

SENIOR OCCUPANT RESPONSIBILITIES

- ✓ **ENSURE DRIVER IS LICENSED**
- ✓ **PROPER SPEEDS ARE FOLLOWED**
- ✓ **SEATBELTS ARE WORN**
- ✓ **KEVLAR HELMETS ARE WORN, CHIN STRAP SECURED**
- ✓ **ENSURE DRIVERS MAINTAINS SAFE INTERVALS**
- ✓ **ASSIST DRIVER AS GROUND GUIDE IF REQUIRED**
- ✓ **ENSURE DRIVER IS ALERT**

**SENIOR OCCUPANT CAN BE SUBJECT TO
DISCIPLINARY ACTION AND HELD LIABLE
FOR DAMAGES.**

NEWS

Peacekeepers May Be in Liberia by Monday

MONROVIA, Liberia (AP) - West African leaders committed Thursday to deploy the first peace troops to warring Liberia by the start of next week, and said President Charles Taylor would go into exile three days later. The leaders, meeting in Ghana, agreed to send a vanguard of 1,500 peacekeepers, expected to be two battalions from Nigeria. Ghana, Mali, Benin, Senegal and Togo have also promised 3,250 soldiers for an eventual 5000-strong force.

Vatican Urges Unity Against Gay Marriages

VATICAN CITY (AP) - The Vatican urged Catholics and non-Catholics alike Thursday to unite in campaigning against gay marriages and gay adoptions, seeking to stem the widening legal recognition of same-sex unions and the increasing acceptance of homosexual lifestyles. Catholic politicians have a "moral duty" to oppose laws granting legal rights to gay couples, and non-Catholics should follow their lead since the issue concerns "natural moral law" and not just Roman Catholic teaching, said the Vatican's orthodoxy watchdog, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, in its latest effort to rally public opinion on the issue.

U.S. to Pay \$30M in Reward to Tipster

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Bush administration has approved the payment of \$30 million in reward money to the tipster who supplied the critical information that led U.S. troops to the hideout of Saddam Hussein's two sons, slain two weeks ago, a U.S. official said Thursday. Secretary of State Colin Powell decided to award the tipster \$15 million for information that led authorities to Odai and Qusai's hideout.

Chaplain's thought for the day:

The hopeful man sees success where others see failure, sunshine where others see shadows and storm.
--O. S. Marden

When wise men say, "Hope springs eternal," they are reminding us that no matter how great are the obstacles, the hope of winning out in the long run still exists. Hope is our friend when all else has failed. When we have strength of character and an energetic mind, hope always flourishes. We discover that, at the very brink of despair, we will find courage to keep trying as long as there is hope for success. After all, what have we got to lose? Without hope, we have no chance, anyway. Our chance for glory comes when we keep trying even though all seems lost. Our hearts remain strong and brave when hope reminds us that challenges last until a game is over.

SPORTS

Lemieux Announces His Return to Penguins

PITTSBURGH (AP) - Mario Lemieux will return for at least one more season with the Pittsburgh Penguins, who have fallen on hard times since his surprise comeback 2 1/2 years ago. In announcing his return Thursday, Lemieux said he's in much better shape and is 12 pounds lighter than last year - and he didn't rule out playing beyond the upcoming season.

Oddly Enough

Stalin Plotted to Kill John Wayne?

LONDON (Reuters) - Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin was so outraged at the anti-communism of film star John Wayne that he plotted to have him murdered, according to a new biography of the American icon. "John Wayne -- The man behind the myth" by British writer and actor Michael Munn says there were several attempts in the late 1940s and early 1950s to kill the man known to audiences around the world as "Duke." In the first attempt, two Russian assassins posing as FBI agents tried to kill Wayne -- born Marion Morrison on May 26, 1907 -- in his office at Warner Brothers studios in Hollywood. But the plot was uncovered and the would-be killers captured. The book says the Soviet plots were canceled after Stalin's death in 1953, by his successor Nikita Krushchev, who was a fan of the larger-than-life star of more than 100 films. "That was a decision of Stalin during his last five mad years. When Stalin died I rescinded that order," the book quotes Krushchev as telling Wayne during a private meeting in 1958.

This Day in History: 01 August, 1876

After its first bid for statehood was vetoed by President Andrew Johnson, Colorado entered the Union on this day in 1876, the year the United States celebrated its centennial. Thus, the 38th State is known as the Centennial State. The United States acquired the eastern part of Colorado in 1803 through the Louisiana Purchase and the western portion in 1848 through the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. This combined property eventually became what is now the state of Colorado.